

What's up with the public airwaves? Are they ours no longer? Silly questions I suppose. "The Pappas Telecasting Companies' 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas is clearly another example of a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves."

I fully agree with those who are saying that, "Localism is not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time."

It is my less than comprehensive understanding that, "Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest; that Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest."

Pappas' actions illustrate why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, their actions underscore the need to revamp the license renewal process that's currently all about sending a returned postcard.

Thanks for listening and please do the right thing.